



Bay Area Dioxins Project



Association of Bay Area
Governments

Summary of Discussions TASK FORCE MEETING August 26, 2003

Attending the meeting were:

Sushma Dhulipala, San Francisco*
Mike Connor, SFEI
Jay Davis, SFEI
Debbie Raphael, San Francisco*
Pamela Evans, Alameda County*
Julie Weiss, Palo Alto*
Betsy Elzufon, LWA+
Kelly Moran, TDC+
Jennifer Krebs, ABAG

(+ Task Force consultant, * Task Force member)

1. **Call to order**, 10:30 am
2. **Public Comments** – none
3. **Presentation on Report Entitled, Contaminant Concentrations in Fish from San Francisco Bay, 2000, by San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) Staff.**

Mike Conner, Executive Director of SFEI, briefly described the mission of the Clean Estuary Partnership – to provide the science inputs needed for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) conceptual model and impairment assessment. Partners include: SFEI, Western States Petroleum Association, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, and the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association. Parties have signed a Memorandum of Understanding reflecting their belief that a collaborative approach for developing TMDLs will be the most effective method for achieving sustainable water quality benefits for the Bay. Link to the website <http://www.cleaneuary.org/>

Jay Davis, Manager of the Region Monitoring Program, presented the report. SFEI has collected fish and analyzed pollutant levels in fish since 1997. In 2000, SFEI scientists analyzed seven species of sport fish. (They repeat the sampling/analysis every three years.) Samples were collected at places of heavy fishing activities. Samples were analyzed at the Department of Toxic Substances Control's Hazardous Materials Laboratory.

In 2000, Dioxins were detected in shiner surfperch and white croaker at levels five times above the TEQ (Toxic Equivalency.) PCBs were 10 times above the TEQ and mercury was three times higher in the same fish. The entire report may be downloaded from the web at http://www.sfei.org/rmp/reports/fish_contamination/2000/. Figures 26 and 27 present the

dioxins congeners found in fish in 2000. There is no apparent trend of dioxins increases or decreases since 1994. The bay is slow to change.

The group discussion asked many questions of Jay and Mike. One discussion was about shiner surfperch, which do not travel widely in the bay. The ones collected in Oakland harbor had high concentrations of dioxins.

4. Pollution Prevention Project Update/Budget.

Jennifer Krebs stated the need to revise the budget downward due to constraints at ABAG. The group re-affirmed its interests in having the remaining budget used for the following:

- assistance to local agencies with P2 (pollution prevention) programs
- updating the vendor lists
- writing the final report and distributing it
- project management

Jennifer will work the Betsy and Kelly to revise the workplan and email it to the group for comments/input.

A conference call will be held in October. The Task Force final meeting (with approval of final report) will be held in December.

5. Check in on list serve

Task Force members had difficulty signing up for the Yahoo list serve. At the moment the ABAG list serve is functioning and will be used. (To be reviewed in December)

6. Public Comments – none

7. Adjourn, 12:30 pm

Proposed next meeting date - by conference call at 10:00 am -

October 28

October 29

October 30

November 3

Please e-mail Michael Smith at Michaels@abag.ca.gov with the dates that you are available.

**Revised Scope of Work for Bay Area Dioxins Project
July 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003**

Total Project Budget \$25,450

- 1. Project Management** - convene two task force meetings and one conference call. Complete grant criteria with EPA. Contract with participating local agencies and consultants. \$5000 - Lead Staff - Jennifer Krebs
- 2. Public Outreach** - distribute meeting minutes to task force members, answer questions from the public, maintain web site, mail materials as needed. \$4500 - Lead Staff - Michael Smith
- 3. Technical Assistance to Local Agencies on Pollution Prevention Project Implementation** - complete assistance on medical waste project. Answer questions as posed by agencies. Attend Task Force meetings, make presentations. \$7450 (however as of 9/1, the remaining amount is \$3000) - Lead Staff - Kelly Moran and Betsy Elzufon
- 4. Update Vendor Lists for Various Projects** - \$1000 - Lead Staff - Betsy Elzufon and Michelle Buzbee
- 5. Write Final Report and Evaluate Project** - this will include a compilation of activities completed and an implementation review/status update. \$7500 - Lead - Betsy Elzufon and Kelly Moran.